



This report is intended to provide you with important information about your drinking water and the efforts made by the Village of Harwood Heights to provide safe drinking water.

For more information regarding this report, contact:

Ronald Masio @ 708-867-7206.

Este informe contiene información muy importante sobre el agua que usted bebe. Tradúzcalo o hable con alguien que lo entienda bien.

Annual Drinking Water Quality Report
Harwood Heights
IL0311140
For the period of January 1 to December 31, 2024

Source of Drinking Water

Lake Michigan is the sole source for drinking water for the Village of Harwood Heights. Water arrives pretreated from the City of Chicago's Jardine Water Purification Plant. Lake Michigan is the only Great Lake that is entirely contained within the United States. It is the second largest Great Lake by volume with 1,180 cubic miles of water and third largest by area.

The sources of drinking water (both tap water and bottled water) include rivers, lakes, streams, ponds, reservoirs, springs, and wells. As water travels over the surface of the land or through the ground, it dissolves naturally-occurring minerals and, in some cases, radioactive material, and can pick up substances resulting from the presence of animals or from human activity. Drinking water including bottled water, may reasonably be expected to contain at least small amounts of some contaminants. The presence of contaminants does not necessarily indicate that water poses a health risk. More information about contaminants and potential health effects can be obtained by calling the EPA's Safe Drinking Water Hotline at (800) 426-4791.

Contaminants that may be present in source water include:

- Microbial contaminants, such as viruses and bacteria, which may come from sewage treatment plants, septic systems, agricultural livestock operations and wildlife.
- Inorganic contaminants, such as salts and metals, which can be naturally-occurring or result from urban storm water runoff, industrial or domestic wastewater discharges, oil and gas production, mining, or farming.
- Pesticides and herbicides, which may come from a variety of sources such as agriculture, urban storm water runoff, and residential uses.
- Radioactive contaminants, which can be naturally-occurring or be the result of oil and gas production and mining activities.
- Organic chemical contaminants, including synthetic and volatile organic chemicals, which are by-products of industrial processes and petroleum production, and can also come from gas stations, urban storm water runoff, and septic systems.

In order to ensure that tap water is safe to drink, EPA prescribes regulations which limit the amount of certain contaminants in water provided by public water systems. FDA regulations establish limits for contaminants in bottled water which must provide the same protection for public health. Some people may be more vulnerable to contaminants in drinking water than the general population. Immuno-compromised persons such as persons with cancer undergoing chemotherapy, persons who have undergone organ transplants, people with HIV/AIDS or other immune system disorders, some elderly and infants can be particularly at risk from infections. These people should seek advice about drinking water from their health care providers. EPA/CDC guidelines on appropriate means to lessen the risk of infection by Cryptosporidium and other microbial contaminants are available from the Safe Drinking Water Hotline (800-426-4791).

Source Water Assessment:

The IEPA implemented a Source Water Assessment Program (SWAP) to assist with watershed protection of public drinking water supplies. The SWAP inventories potential sources of contamination and determined the susceptibility of source water to contamination. The IEPA has completed the SWAP for our supply. The IEPA considers all surface water sources of community water supply to be susceptible to potential pollution problems. The very nature of surface water allows contaminants to migrate into the intake with no protection only dilution. This is the reason for mandatory treatment for all surface water supplies in Illinois. Chicago's offshore intakes are located at a distance that shoreline impacts are not usually considered a factor on water quality. At certain times of the year, however, the potential for contamination exists due to wet-weather flows and river reversals. In addition, the placement of the crib structures may serve to attract waterfowl, gulls and terns that frequent the Great Lakes area, thereby concentrating fecal deposits at the intake and thus compromising the source water quality. Conversely, the shore intakes are highly susceptible to storm water runoff, manure and shoreline point sources due to the influx of groundwater to the lake. Chicago has taken extraordinary steps taken to ensure a safe source of drinking water in the area, from the building of the offshore cribs and the introduction of interceptor sewers to the lock-and-dam system of Chicago's waterways and the City's Lakefront Zoning Ordinance. The City now looks to the Department of the Water Management and the Metropolitan Water Reclamation District of Greater Chicago to ensure the safety of the City's water supply. Additionally, Lake Michigan has a variety of organizations and associations that are currently working to either maintain or improve water quality. Further information on our community water supply's Source Water Assessment Program is available by calling the City of Chicago at 312-742-2406 or at <https://dataservices.epa.illinois.gov/swap/factsheet.aspx>

The City of Chicago continued monitoring for Cryptosporidium, Giardia, and E.coli in its source water as part of its water quality program. No Cryptosporidium or Giardia was detected in source water samples collected in 2024. Treatment processes have been optimized to provide effective barriers for removal of Cryptosporidium oocysts and Giardia cysts in the source water, effectively removing these organisms in the treatment process. By maintaining low turbidity through the removal of particles from the water, the possibility of Cryptosporidium and Giardia organisms getting into the drinking water system is greatly reduced.

In 2024, the City of Chicago continued monitoring for hexavalent chromium, also known as chromium-6. The USEPA has not yet established a standard for chromium-6, a contaminant of concern which has both natural and industrial sources. Chromium-6 sampling data is posted on the City of Chicago's website: www.cityofchicago.org/city/en/depts/water/supp_info/water_quality_resultsandreports/city_of_chicago_emergingcontaminantsstudy.html.



Outdoors:

- Water the lawn and garden as little as possible.
- Choose plants that don't need much water.
- Repair leaks in faucets and hoses.
- Use water from bucket to wash your car, and save the hose for rinsing.
- Obey any and all water bans or regulations.

At Home:

- Fix leaking faucets, pipes, toilets, etc.
- Install water-saving devices in faucets, toilets and appliances.
- Wash only full loads of laundry.
- Don't use the toilet for trash disposal.
- Don't let the water run while shaving, washing, or brushing teeth.
- Run the dishwasher only when full.

Water Conservation Tips

Water conservation measures not only save the supply of our water source, but can also cut the cost of water treatment by saving energy. Here are some conservation measures you can take:

Village of
Harwood Heights

Keeping you informed on water
quality in your community

May 2025

Water Quality Report

Dear Residents,

This year, as in years past, your tap water met all USEPA and Illinois EPA (IEPA) drinking water health standards. The Village vigilantly safeguards its water supply, and we are pleased to report that Harwood Heights had no violations of a contaminant level or any other water quality standards in the year 2021. This report covers January 2021 through December 2021, and summarizes the quality of water that was provided last year, including where your water comes from, what it contains and how it compares to standards set by regulatory agencies. Much effort goes into ensuring that you and your family get an abundant supply of clean, fresh water from Lake Michigan. The Harwood Heights Water Department will be making some improvements in its distribution system in the near future and we hope this will add to the integrity of the system as a whole.

Arlene Jezierny
Mayor

Marcia Pollowy, Village Clerk
Trustees: Zbigniew "Ziggy" Lewandowski,
Anna Wegrecki, Annette Volpe,
Eugene Brutto, Lawrence Steiner,
Giuseppe S. Zerillo

Village of Harwood Heights

Regulated Contaminants Detected in 2024 (collected in 2024 unless noted)

Coliform Bacteria

Maximum Contaminant	Total Coliform Maximum	Highest No. of Positive Total	Fecal Coliform or E. Coli Maximum	Total No. of Positive E. Coli or Fecal Coliform Samples	Violation	Likely Source of Contamination		
0	0	0	Fecal Coliform or E. Coli MCL: A routine sample and a repeat sample are total coliform positive, and one is also fecal coliform or E. Coli positive.	0	N	Naturally Present in the Environment		
Lead and Copper: Harwood Heights has developed a service line material inventory. To view it online visit: www.gettheleadoutil.com/harwoodheights . To obtain a copy of our lead tap sampling data: contact Ronald Maslo at 708-867-7600. Copper Range: 0.00209 to 0.153 ppm. Lead Range: 0.00 to 8.87 ppb. Action Level (AL): The concentration of a contaminant which, if exceeded, triggers treatment or other requirements which a water system must follow.								
Lead and Copper	Date Sampled	MCLG	Action Level(AL)	90th Percentile	# Sites Over AL	Units	Violation	Likely Source of Contaminant
Copper	2023	1.3	1.3	0.0745	0	ppm	N	Erosion of natural deposits; Leaching from wood Preservatives; Corrosion of household plumbing systems
Lead	2023	0	15	2.98	0	ppb	N	Corrosion of household plumbing systems; Erosion of natural deposits

Water Quality Test Results

Treatment Technique (TT): A required process intended to reduce the level of a contaminant in drinking water.	Highest Level Detected: This column represents the highest single sample reading of a contaminant of all samples collected in the CCR calendar year.
Maximum Contaminant Level (MCL): The highest level of a contaminant that is allowed in drinking water. MCL's are set as close to Maximum Contaminant Level Goals as feasible using the best available treatment technology.	Maximum Residual Disinfectant Level Goal (MRDLG): The level of disinfectant in drinking water below which there is no known/expected risk to health. MRDLGs don't reflect the benefits of the use of disinfectants to control microbial contaminants
Maximum Contaminant Level Goal (MCLG): The level of a contaminant in drinking water below which there is no known or expected risk to health. MCLG's allow for a margin of safety.	Maximum Residual Disinfectant Level (MRDL): The highest level of disinfectant allowed in drinking water. There is convincing evidence that addition of disinfectant is necessary for control of microbial contaminants.
Range of Levels Detected This column represents a range of individual sample results, from lowest to highest that were collected during the CCR calendar year.	N/A: not applicable

Regulated Contaminants	Collection Date	Highest Level Detected	Range of Levels Detected	Unit of Measurement	MCLG	MCL	Violation	Likely Source of contaminants
Disinfectants & Disinfection By-Products								
Chlorine	2024	1	0.9 - 1	ppm	MRDLG = 4	MRDL = 4	N	Water additive use to control microbes
Total Haloacetic Acids (HAA5)	2024	22	16.04 - 22	ppb	N/A	60	N	By-product of drinking water disinfection
Total Trihalomethanes (TTHM)	2024	54	40.4 - 54	ppb	N/A	80	N	By-product of drinking water disinfection

Note: The state requires monitoring of certain contaminants less than once per year because the concentrations do not change frequently. Therefore, some of this data may be more than one year old.

UNREGULATED CONTAMINANT MONITORING RULE FIFTH EDITION (UCMR5)

The Safe Drinking Water Act (SDWA) requires that once every five years the U.S. EPA issue a list of new unregulated contaminants to be monitored by public water supplies. The intent of the Unregulated Contaminant Monitoring Rule (UCMR) is to provide the U.S. EPA with scientifically valid data on the occurrences of contaminants in drinking water. This national survey is one of the primary sources of information on occurrences and levels of exposure that the Agency uses to develop regulatory decisions for contaminants. In 2023, the Village collected all required quarterly samples for 25 perfluorinated and polyfluorinated alkyl substances, 4 perfluorinated alkyl acids, and lithium. None of the contaminants were detected at or above the EPA's minimum reporting levels in our drinking water.

Village of Harwood Heights Board Meetings

7:30 pm 2nd & 4th Thursday of the Month 708-867-7200

Regulated Contaminants City of Chicago 2024 Detected Contaminants

Contaminant (unit of measurement) Typical Source of Contaminant	MCLG	MCL	Highest Level Detected	Range of Detections	Violation	Date of Sample
Turbidity Data						
Turbidity (NTU/Lowest Monthly % <0.3 NTU) <i>Soil runoff</i>	N/A	TT(Limit 95%≤0.3 NTU)	Lowest Monthly % 99.7%	99.7% - 100%	N	2024
Turbidity (NTU/Highest Single Measurement) <i>Soil runoff</i>	N/A	TT(Limit 1 NTU)	0.39	N/A	N	2024
Inorganic Contaminants						
Barium (ppm) <i>Discharge of drilling wastes; Discharge from metal refineries; Erosion of natural deposits</i>	2	2	0.0203	0.0198 - 0.0203	N	2024
Nitrate (as Nitrogen) (ppm) Runof from fertilizer use; Leaching from septic tanks, sewage; Erosion of natural deposits	10	10	0.39	0.36 - 0.39	N	2024
Total Nitrate & Nitrite (as Nitrogen) (ppm) Runof from fertilizer use; Leaching from septic tanks, sewage; Erosion of natural deposits	10	10	0.39	0.36 - 0.39	N	2024
Total Organic Carbon (TOC)						
TOC	The percentage of TOC removal was measured each month and the system met all TOC removal requirements set by IEPA.					
Unregulated Contaminants						
Sulfate (ppm) <i>Erosion of naturally occurring deposits</i>	N/A	N/A	28.2	25.3 - 28.2	N	2024
Sodium (ppm) <i>Erosion of naturally occurring deposits; Used as water soft^ner</i>	N/A	N/A	9.18	8.87 - 9.18	N	2024
State Regulated Contaminants						
Fluoride (ppm) <i>Water additive which promotes strong teeth</i>	4	4	0.76	0.67 - 0.76	N	2024
Radioactive Contaminants						
Combined Radium (226/228) (pCi/L) <i>Decay of natural and man-made deposits</i>	0	5	0.95	0.83 - 0.95	N	02-04-2020
Gross Alpha excluding radon and uranium (pCi/L) <i>Decay of natural and man-made deposits</i>	0	15	3.1	2.8 - 3.1	N	02-04-2020

Water Quality Data Table Footnotes

TURBIDITY

Turbidity is a measure of the cloudiness of the water. We monitor it because it is a good indicator of water quality and the effectiveness of our filtration system and disinfectants.

SODIUM

There is no state or federal MCL for sodium. Monitoring is required to provide information to consumers and health officials who have concerns about sodium intake due to dietary precautions. If you are on a sodium-restricted diet, you should consult a physician about the level of sodium in the water.

UNREGULATED CONTAMINANTS:

A maximum contaminant level (MCL) for this contaminant has not been established by either state or federal regulations, nor has mandatory health effects language. The purpose for monitoring this contaminant is to assist USEPA in determining the occurrence of unregulated contaminants in drinking water, and whether future regulation is warranted.

FLUORIDE

Fluoride is added to the water supply to help promote strong teeth. The Illinois Department of Public Health recommends an optimal fluoride level of 0.7 mg/L with a range of 0.6 mg/L to 0.8 mg/L.

UNITS OF MEASUREMENT:

ppb: parts per billion or micrograms per liter - or one ounce in 7,350,000 gallons of water.
ppm: parts per million or milligrams per liter - one ounce in 7,350 gallons of water.
NTU: Nephelometric Turbidity Unit, used to measure cloudiness in drinking water.
%<0.3 NTU: Percent of samples less than or equal to 0.3 NTU.
pCi/L: Picocuries per liter, used to measure radioactivity

Lead in Drinking Water

Lead can cause serious health problems, especially for pregnant women and young children. Lead in drinking water is primarily from materials and components associated with service lines and home plumbing. The Village of Harwood Heights is responsible for providing high quality drinking water and removing lead pipes, but cannot control the variety of materials used in plumbing components in your home. You share the responsibility for protecting yourself and your family from the lead in your home plumbing. You can take responsibility by identifying and removing lead materials within your home plumbing and taking steps to reduce your family's risk. Before drinking tap water, flush your pipes for several minutes by running your tap, taking a shower, doing laundry or a load of dishes. You can also use a filter certified by an American National Standard Institute accredited certifier to reduce lead in drinking water. If you are concerned about lead in your water, you may wish to have your water tested, contact Ronald Maslo at 708-867-7206. Information on lead in drinking water, testing methods, and steps you can take to minimize exposure is available at <http://www.epa.gov/safewater/lead>.

Copies of this report are available at the Harwood Heights Village Hall, Eisenhower Public Library, and the Harwood Heights Website, www.harwoodheights.org.

For more information regarding this report or to request a printed copy, please contact:

Ronald Maslo, Water Commissioner
@ (708) 867-7206

